Shimmering World

Our world is beautiful. Most of us spend our childhood uncovering the wonder of the world. We come to know the moon and the sun, the stars in their milky white band crossing the sky. If we are lucky, we develop a close bond with the things of the world – the dirt, plants, animals; the seasons and the light of day, night; the wonders of weather, (the more vigorous, the better), and the sky that parades its clouds for daily delight.

I was a lucky child. I grew up in the firm grasp of these things. Complemented by wide reading in the realm of poetry, a source of my work can be found in how the written word makes visible the shimmering of the world. When I paint a kind of inchoate-ness takes over. The paint becomes a form of energy that I work and play with. I work with thinned oil paint: as it is added to a pool of turpentine, it flows, plumes, and settles in patterns well beyond my control. Some control can happen through the choices I make to shape the layers, both as they dry, and when they are stable enough to add to. Sometimes I don't know what a painting wants to say. I am willing to give it voice. This is not so different from living with plants and with animals. It's collaborative, a give and take based on needs, wishes, and innate habits.

For a long time I've thought of the world as a sacred place. Sacred space is culturally identified through gold. Looking back through deep history, gold has always been used to mark something as sacred. This is the same reason I use it. While there may be a great deal of hubris in proclaiming clouds and flowers and the moon as sacred – suggesting perhaps that if all things are sacred then all things may also NOT be sacred. Who am I to make such a proclamation? Or, who am I to not make this proclamation? Within this conversation, which is what art is, my work holds true to the sacred, the imagination, and the energy of wonder within the shimmering world. Ask the sky – she will also say how important these things are.

-Karen Fitzgerald 2016

28-53 Hobart Street, Woodside, NY 11377
www.FitzgeraldArt.com 646.369.7184 Karen@FitzgeraldArt.com